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Name of Registered Representative:

Joan C. Freeman

Joan C. Freeman, Reg. No. 34,483

February 26, 2004

Date of Signature

PATENT  
CASE NO. 56/419

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application: )  
Erwin Bratzdrum )  
Serial No.: 10/677,111 )  
Filed: October 1, 2003 )  
For: PROCEDURE AND DEVICE FOR )  
DATA TRANSMISSION )  
BETWEEN A PROCESSING UNIT )  
AND SEVERAL POSITION )  
MEASURING INSTRUMENTS )

) Group Art Unit: 2857

) Examiner: unassigned

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby submits the following references for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of all of the references, except German references nos. 100 30 358 A1, 100 30 357 A1 and 101 62 735 A1, are enclosed along with a completed copy of

Form PTO-1449. Copies of German references nos. 100 30 358 A1, 100 30 357 A1 and 101 62 735 A1 were previously supplied in Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement of February 10, 2004.

**I. DISCLOSURE**

**A. U.S. Patents**

<b><u>Patent No.</u></b>	<b><u>Inventor</u></b>	<b><u>Issue Date</u></b>
4,982,185	Holmberg et al.	01/01/91

**B. U.S. Patent Application Publications**

<b><u>Patent No.</u></b>	<b><u>Inventor</u></b>	<b><u>Issue Date</u></b>
US 2003/0135348 A1	Bratzdrum et al.	07/17/03

**C. Foreign Patent References**

<b><u>Reference No.</u></b>	<b><u>Country</u></b>	<b><u>Publication Date</u></b>
40 25 025 A1	Germany	02/13/92
197 10 971 A1	Germany	09/24/98
197 02 270 C2	Germany	03/18/99
199 17 354 A1	Germany	10/19/00
100 30 358 A1	Germany	01/03/02
100 30 357 A1	Germany	01/17/02
101 62 735 A1	Germany	07/03/03

## **II. DISCUSSION**

### **A. German Reference No. 40 25 025**

Based solely on the drawings and the enclosed English language abstract, the '025 patent reference is pertinent because it appears to disclose a measurement system that includes a master node and slave nodes that interconnected to form a ring. The master node sends a synchronizing message. It is believed that U.S. Patent No. 4,982,185 corresponds to the '025 patent reference.

The '025 patent reference was cited as a Y-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding German patent application. A Y-type reference is considered pertinent to patentability when combined with one or more Y-type references.

### **B. German Reference No. 197 10 971 A1**

Based solely on the drawings and the enclosed English language abstract, the '971 patent reference is pertinent because it appears to regard a method that times the travel of a message from one subscriber to another. The '971 patent reference was cited as a Y-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding German patent application.

### **C. German Reference No. 197 02 270**

Based solely on the drawings and the enclosed English language abstract, the '270 patent reference is pertinent because it appears to disclose a method of transmitting information using clock and data information transmitted to a central device. The central device receives response information from peripheral modules. The '270 patent reference was cited as a Y-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding German patent application.

### **D. German Reference No. 199 17 354**

Based solely on the drawings and the enclosed English language abstract, the '354 patent

reference is pertinent because it appears to disclose transmitting time signals to a sub-unit via a main unit. A difference in propagation times is calculated by the sub-unit. The '354 patent reference was cited as an A-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding German patent application. An A-type reference regards technical background and is not related to patentability.

**E. German Reference No. 100 30 358**

The pertinence of the '358 patent reference is discussed in Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 10, 2004. The '358 patent reference was cited as a D- and Y-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding German patent application.

**F. German Reference No. 100 30 357**

The pertinence of the '357 patent reference is discussed in Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 10, 2004. The '357 patent reference was cited as a D- and Y-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding German patent application.

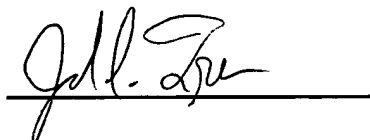
**G. German Reference No. 101 62 735**

The pertinence of the '735 patent reference is discussed in Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 10, 2004. The '735 patent reference was cited as a D- and T-type reference in a Search Report for a corresponding German patent application. It is believed that U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0135348 corresponds to the '735 patent reference.

### III. CONCLUSION

It is believed that none of these references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the invention claimed. However, Applicant wishes to make it clear that the disclosure of the above references is in no way an admission that they qualify as prior art. It is Applicant's desire, however, to have these references available in the record for both the Examiner and the public to see. Applicant therefore requests that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of each reference and make the above-listed references of record.

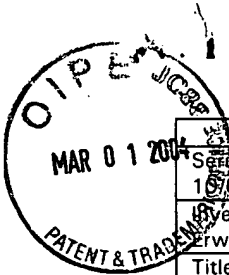
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Freeman", is written over a solid horizontal line.

John C. Freeman  
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Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER  
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Dated: February 26, 2004



TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No. 56/419
Serial No. 1577,111	Filing Date October 1, 2003	Examiner unassigned	Group Art Unit 2857
Inventor(s) Erwin Bratzdum			
Title of Invention PROCEDURE AND DEVICE FOR DATA TRANSMISSION BETWEEN A PROCESSING UNIT AND SEVERAL POSITION MEASURING INSTRUMENTS			

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449; Six (6) Cited References; and a Return Postcard.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☐ Petition for a \_\_\_\_\_ month extension of time.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity		or	Other Than Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee		Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$9 =			x \$18 =	
Indep.		Minus			x 43 =			x \$86 =	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+ \$145 =			+ \$290 =	
					Total add'l fee	\$		Total add'l fee	\$

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 26, 2004.

Date: February 26, 2004 Signature:



PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/677,111	CASE NO. 56/419
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE October 1, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 2857
(use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): Erwin Bratzdrum

#### REFERENCE DESIGNATION

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	4982185	01/01/91	Holmberg et al.		
	A2	US2003/0135348 A1	07/17/03	Bratzdrum et al.		

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A3	40 25 025 A1	02/13/92	Germany		YES
	A4	197 10 971 A1	09/24/98	Germany		YES
	A5	197 03 270 C2	03/18/99	Germany		YES
	A6	199 17 354 A1	10/19/00	Germany		YES
	A7	100 30 358 A1	01/03/02	Germany		NO
	A8	100 30 357 A1	01/17/02	Germany		NO
	A9	101 62 735 A1	07/03/03	Germany		NO

#### OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.